AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for executing a query against a database on a data

storage device connected to a computer, the method comprising:

modifying the query to replace one or more selected clauses with a one or more false

~~clause~~ clauses;

executing the modified query with the false clause; and

retrieving metadata from the result set obtained by executing the modified query.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query comprises a SELECT statement.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the SELECT statement is not a SELECT

INTO statement.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the selected clauses comprise WHERE

clauses.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the selected clauses comprise GROUP BY

clauses.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein modifying the query comprises:

generating a list of modified queries, wherein each modified query has one or more

selected clauses replaced with a one or more false elause clauses; and

executing each modified query until one executes successfully.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein a query executes successfully if it executes

without an exception.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata comprises column type data

for the result set.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising converting the column type data

to JAVA types.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising generating a SQLJ iterator with

parameters having the JAVA types.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining whether the query

requires a SQLJ iterator.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for executing a query, comprising:

a computer connected a data storage device that stores a database containing data;

one or more computer programs, performed by the computer, for modifying the query to

replace one or more selected clauses with a one or more false clause clauses, executing the

modified query with the false clause, and retrieving metadata from the result set obtained by

executing the modified query.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the query comprises a SELECT

statement.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the SELECT statement is not a

SELECT INTO statement.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the selected clauses comprise WHERE

clauses.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the selected clauses comprise GROUP

BY clauses.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein modifying the query

comprises:

generating a list of modified queries, wherein each modified query has one or more

selected clauses replaced with a one or more false clause clauses; and

executing each modified query until one executes successfully.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein a query executes successfully if it executes without an exception.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the metadata comprises column type data for the result set.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising converting the column type data to JAVA types.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, further comprising generating a SQLJ iterator with parameters having the JAVA types.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising determining whether the query requires a SQLJ iterator.

23. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer program carrier readable by computers and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer for executing a query against a database on a data storage device connected to the computer, comprising:

modifying the query to replace one or more selected clauses with ~~a~~ <u>one or more</u> false

~~clause~~ <u>clauses</u>;

executing the modified query with the false clause; and

retrieving metadata from the result set obtained by executing the modified query.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the query comprises a

SELECT statement.

25. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 24, wherein the SELECT statement is

not a SELECT INTO statement.

26. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the selected clauses

comprise WHERE clauses.

27. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the selected clauses

comprise GROUP BY clauses.

28. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein modifying the

query comprises:

generating a list of modified queries, wherein each modified query has one or more

selected clauses replaced with ~~a~~ <u>one or more</u> false ~~clause~~ <u>clauses</u>; and

executing each modified query until one executes successfully.

29. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 28, wherein a query executes

successfully if it executes without an exception.

30. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the metadata comprises

column type data for the result set.

31. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 30, further comprising

converting the column type data to JAVA types.

32. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 31~~,~~ further comprising

generating a SQLJ iterator with parameters having the JAVA types.

33. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, further comprising determining

whether the query requires a SQLJ iterator.